

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (original) A method for determining vector mismatch between a plurality of signal paths in a signal processing system, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a periodic calibration signal having a plurality of tones;
- (b) frequency translating the calibration signal using the signal processing system to provide a first set of observed samples;
- (c) comparing the first sample set to a second set of samples modeled by a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and
- (d) determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set.

Claim 2 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

- (a) the signal paths include an in-phase signal path and a quadrature signal path; and
- (b) vector mismatch includes deviation from a quadrature relationship between the in-phase signal path and the quadrature signal path.

Claim 3 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

- (a) the signal paths include a plurality of signal paths coupled to respective elements of a spatially selective array; and

(b) vector mismatch includes deviations from a predetermined phase and amplitude relationship between each respective one of the plurality of signal paths, the deviations degrading spatial selectivity of the array.

Claim 4 (original) The method of claim 3 further comprising transmitting the calibration signal through an antenna placed at a fixed position with respect to the array elements.

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the number of samples in the sample set is significantly greater than the number of parameters of the function, whereby the function is overdetermined.

Claim 6 (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

- (a) providing a plurality of first sample sets;
- (b) comparing each first sample set to a respective second sample set of samples modeled as a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch, and a plurality of basis functions;
- (c) determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between each first sample set and each respective second sample set; and
- (d) statistically combining the values of vector mismatch determined for each one of the plurality of first sample sets.

Claim 7 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the determined vector mismatch includes a first value representative of phase mismatch and a second value representative of gain mismatch, the values being representative of mismatches between the signal paths.

Claim 8 (original) The method of claim 7 wherein:

- (a) the determined vector mismatch includes a plurality of phase and gain mismatch values;
- (b) the plurality of values includes a phase and gain mismatch value for each one of the plurality of tones; and
- (c) each one of the plurality of values is representative of vector mismatch between the signal paths from frequency translation of one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 9 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the parameters further include a parameter indicative of at least one environmental condition.

Claim 10 (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the environmental condition is a temperature.

Claim 11 (original) The method of claim 9 wherein the environmental condition is a local oscillator frequency.

Claim 12 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein each one of the plurality of basis functions forms an orthogonal basis for each one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 13 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

(a) the plurality of basis functions includes a first function set and a second function set; and

(b) one basis function of the first function set and one basis function of the second function set together form an orthogonal basis for each one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 14 (original) The method of claim 13 wherein:

(a) each one of the plurality of basis functions is sinusoidal and periodic at a frequency equal to the frequency of the tone whose orthogonal basis is formed thereby; and

(b) each basis function of the first function set is displaced from each basis function of the second function set by a predetermined phase offset to establish a predetermined vector relationship therebetween.

Claim 15 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set is determined by recursive least mean squares.

Claim 16 (original) The method of claim 15 wherein the values determined by least mean squares are constrained to a predetermined bounded region.

Claim 17 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein the value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set is determined by recursive least squares with an exponential forgetting window.

Claim 18 (original) The method of claim 1 wherein:

(a) the function is a linear product of

(1) a matrix of results of the basis functions; and

(2) a parameter vector of variables representative of the vector mismatch; and

(b) the value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set is determined by linear regression estimation of the parameter vector.

Claim 19 (original) The method of claim 18 wherein X is the matrix, Y is the observation vector, Z is the parameter vector, and the linear regression estimation is determined according to the formula:

$$Z=(X^T X)^{-1} X^T Y$$

Claim 20 (original) A method in accordance with claim 1 for reducing vector mismatch between signal paths in a signal processing system, the method further comprising

applying at least one of a phase adjustment and a gain adjustment to at least one of the signal paths.

Claim 21 (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising:

- (a) computing complex exponentials corresponding to the vector mismatch; and
- (b) based on the complex exponentials, deriving coefficients of impulse response that is inversely representative of the vector mismatch; and
- (c) realizing the impulse response in a digital filter to apply the adjustment.

Claim 22 (original) The method of claim 21 wherein the coefficients are derived by applying the complex exponentials to appropriate frequency bands of an inverse fast Fourier transform.

Claim 23 (original) The method of claim 21 wherein the digital filter is a finite-impulse-response filter.

Claim 24 (original) The method of claim 20 further comprising repeatedly determining vector mismatch and applying a phase and gain adjustment, inverse of the determined vector mismatch, to reduce the vector mismatch.

Claim 25 (original) A signal processing system having an in-phase signal path and a quadrature signal path and including a vector mismatch determination system comprising:

- (a) a calibration signal subsystem that, during operation, provides a periodic calibration signal having a plurality of tones;
- (b) a sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem responsive to the calibration signal to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples and determine vector mismatch between the plurality of signal paths, vector mismatch including deviation from a quadrature relationship between the in-phase signal path and the quadrature signal path, wherein, during operation:
 - (1) each first sample set is compared to a respective second set of samples modeled by a linear product of a parameter vector of variables representative of an estimated vector mismatch and a matrix of results from a plurality of basis functions, the estimated vector mismatch including a plurality of values representative of phase mismatch and a plurality of values representative of gain mismatch at each one of the plurality of tones;
 - (2) a value of vector mismatch is determined, at least to an estimate, that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set, the determination being made by a bounded least mean squares algorithm;

- (3) the number of samples in the sample set is significantly greater than the number of parameters of the function, whereby the function is overdetermined;
- (4) the values of vector mismatch determined for each one of the plurality of first sample sets are statistically combined;
- (5) the plurality of basis functions includes a first function set and a second function set, one basis function of the first function set and one basis function of the second function set together forming an orthogonal basis for each one of the plurality of tones;
- (6) each one of the plurality of basis functions is sinusoidal and periodic at a frequency equal to the frequency of the tone whose orthogonal basis is formed thereby; and
- (7) each basis function of the first function set is displaced from each basis function of the second function set by a predetermined phase offset to establish a predetermined vector relationship therebetween.

Claim 26 (original) A system in accordance with claim 25 for reducing vector mismatch between quadrature signal paths in a signal processing system, wherein, during operation at least one of a phase adjustment and a gain adjustment is repeatedly determined and applied to at least one of the signal paths, the system further comprising:

- (a) a correction coefficient generator responsive to the determined value of vector mismatch to compute complex exponentials corresponding to the vector mismatch;
- (b) a coefficient generator responsive to the complex exponentials to derive coefficients of an impulse response that is inversely representative of the vector mismatch, the coefficients being derived by applying the complex exponentials to appropriate frequency bands of an inverse fast Fourier transform; and
- (c) a finite-impulse-response digital filter coupled to the coefficient generator to realize the impulse response and apply the adjustment.

Claim 27 (original) A signal processing system comprising:

- (a) means for providing a periodic calibration signal having a plurality of tones;
- (b) means for frequency translating the calibration signal to provide a first set of observed samples;

(c) means for comparing the first sample set to a second set of samples modeled by a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and

(d) means for determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set.

Claims 28-49 (canceled).

Claim 50 (original) A method for determining vector mismatch between a plurality of signal paths in a signal processing system that includes a digital signal processor, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a periodic calibration signal;
- (b) frequency translating the calibration signal using the signal processing system to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples;
- (c) when processing time of the digital signal processor is available, performing a vector mismatch calibration process based on one of the first sample set, the process including:
 - (1) comparing the first sample set to a respective second sample set of samples modeled as a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and

- (2) determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between each first sample set and each respective second sample set; and
- (d) statistically combining the values of vector mismatch determined for each one of the plurality of first sample sets.

Claim 51-69 (canceled).

Claim 70 (previously presented) Apparatus for determining vector mismatch between a plurality of signal paths in a signal processing system that includes a digital signal processor, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for providing a periodic calibration signal;
- (b) means for frequency translating the calibration signal to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples;
- (c) means for determining when processing time of the digital signal processor is available and, during available processing time, performing a vector mismatch calibration process based on one of the first sample set, the process including:
 - (1) comparing the first sample set to a respective second sample set of samples modeled as a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and

- (2) determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between each first sample set and each respective second sample set; and
- (d) means for statistically combining the values of vector mismatch determined for each one of the plurality of first sample sets.

Claim 71 (previously presented) A signal processing system having an in-phase signal path and a quadrature signal path and including a vector mismatch determination system comprising:

- (a) a calibration signal subsystem that, during operation, provides a periodic calibration signal having a plurality of tones; and
- (b) a sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem responsive to the calibration signal to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples and determine vector mismatch between the plurality of signal paths, vector mismatch including deviation from a quadrature relationship between the in-phase signal path and the quadrature signal path, wherein, during operation:
 - (1) each first sample set is compared to a respective second set of samples modeled by a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and

(2) a value of vector mismatch is determined, at least to an estimate, that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set.

Claim 72 (previously presented) Apparatus for determining vector mismatch between a plurality of signal paths in a signal processing system that includes a digital signal processor, the apparatus comprising:

- (a) means for providing a periodic calibration signal;
- (b) means for frequency translating the calibration signal to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples;
- (c) means for determining when processing time of the digital signal processor is available and, during available processing time, performing a vector mismatch calibration process based on one of the first sample set, the process including:
 - (1) comparing the first sample set to a respective second sample set of samples modeled as a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and
 - (2) determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that minimizes the difference between each first sample set and each respective second sample set; and

(d) means for statistically combining the values of vector mismatch determined for each one of the plurality of first sample sets.

Claim 73 (previously presented) A signal processing system having an in-phase signal path and a quadrature signal path and including a vector mismatch determination system comprising:

(a) a calibration signal subsystem that, during operation, provides a periodic calibration signal having a plurality of tones; and

(b) a sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem including a signal processor and responsive to a determination of when processing time of the digital signal processor is available, wherein, during operation:

(1) during available processing time, the sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem is responsive to the calibration signal to provide a plurality of first sets of observed samples and determine vector mismatch between the plurality of signal paths, vector mismatch including deviation from a quadrature relationship between the in-phase signal path and the quadrature signal path;

(2) each first sample set is compared to a respective second set of samples modeled by a function of parameters including an estimated vector mismatch and a plurality of basis functions; and

(3) a value of vector mismatch is determined, at least to an estimate, that minimizes the difference between the first sample set and the second sample set.

Claim 74 (new) The method of claim 50 wherein the determined vector mismatch includes a first value representative of phase mismatch and a second value representative of gain mismatch, the values being representative of mismatches between the signal paths.

Claim 75 (new) The method of claim 74 wherein:

- (a) the determined vector mismatch includes a plurality of phase and gain mismatch values;
- (b) the plurality of values includes a phase and gain mismatch value for each one of the plurality of tones; and
- (c) each one of the plurality of values is representative of vector mismatch between the signal paths from frequency translation of one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 76 (new) The system of claim 71 wherein the vector mismatch determined by the sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem responsive to the calibration signal includes (a) a first value representative of phase mismatch between the in-phase and quadrature signal paths and (b) a second value representative of gain mismatch between the in-phase and quadrature signal paths.

Claim 77 (new) The system of claim 76 wherein:

- (a) the determined vector mismatch includes a plurality of phase and gain mismatch values;
- (b) the plurality of values includes a phase and gain mismatch value for each one of the plurality of tones; and
- (c) each one of the plurality of values is representative of vector mismatch between the in-phase and quadrature signal paths from frequency translation of one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 78 (new) The apparatus of claim 72 wherein the vector calibration process performed by the means of part (c) includes determining, at least to an estimate, a value of vector mismatch that includes a first value representative of phase mismatch and a second value representative of gain mismatch, the values being representative of mismatches between the signal paths.

Claim 79 (new) The apparatus of claim 78 wherein:

- (a) the determined vector mismatch includes a plurality of phase and gain mismatch values;
- (b) the plurality of values includes a phase and gain mismatch value for each one of the plurality of tones; and

(c) each one of the plurality of values is representative of vector mismatch between the signal paths from frequency translation of one of the plurality of tones.

Claim 80 (new) The system of claim 73 wherein the vector mismatch determined by the sample modeling and mismatch determination subsystem responsive to the calibration signal includes a plurality of deviations from a quadrature relationship between the in-phase and quadrature signal paths, one for each one of the plurality of tones.